# Pretrial Stages within Justice System

#### 1. Incident

Off ramp:

- LEO (Law Enforcement Officer) referral to pre-charge
- 2. Citation to appear in Court or Arrested and Lodged by LEO

Off ramp:

- State's Attorney referral to Pretrial Services intervention (pre-charge)
- 3. Charged by State's Attorney

Off ramps:

- State's Attorney referral to Pretrial Services intervention (post charge)
- State's Attorney referral to Court Diversion
- 4. Arraignment

Off ramp:

• State's Attorney referral to Pretrial Services intervention (post charge)

Conditions of release by Judge may include meeting with a Pretrial Monitor

5. Plea Bargain or Trial

# Vermont Pretrial Services Act 195 (13 V.S.A. § 7554c)

#### **Pretrial Intervention**

#### **Risk Assessments & Needs Screenings**

Pretrial Monitors offer risk assessments and needs screenings to those cited or arrested. Results are provided to the person screened, Defense Attorney, Prosecutor, and Court.

#### Screening for needs:

- Mental health
- Substance use

#### Assessing for risk:

- Nonappearance
- Risk of re-offense

#### May inform:

- if clinical assessment is recommended
- Prosecutor's decision to refer to a pretrial intervention
- all parties to determine if bail or conditions of release are required
- Court decision to order Pretrial Monitoring

Between 10/1/15 – 9/30/16, Pretrial Monitors screened and assessed 1,246 individuals throughout all counties.

# Prosecutor Referral Rapid Intervention/Precharge

Pretrial Monitors provide a pretrial intervention for those

- cited or arrested
- for whom the underlying cause of criminal behavior is substance use or mental health problems
- willing to engage in treatment supports and repair harm when appropriate
- referred by the Prosecutor

Typically, these are individuals who are not eligible for Court Diversion, because of their criminal history, and whose repeated convictions have not led to any behavior change.

Pretrial monitors report to the Prosecutor on the individual's compliance and the Prosecutor decides whether to file a charge.

Prosecutors in Essex, Lamoille, Rutland, Windham, and Windsor Counties referred 80 individuals between 10/1/15 – 9/30/16. Two-thirds of these cases have closed; of those, 75% closed following full compliance of the individual and no charge being filed.

## Court Referral Monitoring

Pretrial Monitors support defendants to follow these conditions of release as ordered by the Court:

- Meet with the Pretrial Monitor for a needs screening or risk assessment
- Meet with the Pretrial Monitor on a schedule set by the Court
- Follow the recommendations of the Pretrial Monitor
- Participate in a clinical assessment by a substance use or mental health treatment provider

Pretrial Monitors provide case management support and help defendants address other unmet needs, connecting them to services when appropriate.

Judges in many counties, and consistently in Washington, Windham, and Windsor, have ordered conditions of release involving support by Pretrial Monitors.

<sup>\*</sup>As of January 2017 Prosecutors in Addison, Bennington, Caledonia, Essex, Lamoille, Rutland, and Windsor have established PTS rapid intervention/precharge programs.



### IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS STRUGGLING WITH ALCOHOL OR OTHER DRUGS:

- ✓ Call your doctor. Tell the person answering the phone that you/he or she has a private issue that you would like to discuss with your doctor.
- Call your counselor.

## If you don't have a doctor or a counselor:

- Behavioral Health & Wellness Center
   65 Northgate Plaza, Suite 11
   Morrisville, VT 05661
   (802) 888-8320
- Treatment Associates
   65 Portland Street
   Morrisville, VT 05661
   (802) 888-0079
- North Central VT Recovery Center
   275 Brooklyn Street
   Morrisville, VT 05661
   (802) 851-8120
- ✓ Lamoille Restorative Center
  221 Main Street
  Hyde Park, VT 05656
  (802) 888-0657

- ✓ Medication Assisted Treatment Team (MAT)

  Community Health Services of Lamoille Valley

  Morrisville, VT 05661

  (802) 888-6009
- ✓ Howard Center
  172 Fairfield Street
  St. Albans, VT 05478
  (802) 488-6265
- ✓ Lamoille County Mental Health
  72 Harrell Street
  Morrisville, VT 05661
  (802) 888-5026
- ✓ Central VT Addictions Medicine 300 Granger Road Berlin, VT 05601 (802) 223-2003
- ✓ Vermont Department of Health, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs online at: http://healthvermont.gov/adap/treatment/treatment\_county or Michelle Salvador at (802) 888-2581 for confidential referral information or resources.

Restoring relationships. Rebuilding community. Renewing hope.